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**Maryland Energy Administration Offers
New Rebates for Home Energy Efficiency**
Marylanders Can Now Save Up to 50% on Home Energy Upgrades

ANNAPOLIS, MD (January 20, 2011) - Starting today Marylanders can save up to 50% on home energy efficiency upgrades, thanks to the Maryland Energy Administration's new Home Performance Rebate program. The program, designed to bring Maryland closer to achieving its goal of reducing energy consumption by 15% by 2015, offers a 35% rebate (up to \$3,100 total) toward qualifying home efficiency upgrades. When combined with the existing utility-sponsored rebates of 15% off the cost of qualifying home efficiency upgrades, Marylanders are now able to reduce the cost of upgrading their home by as much as half.

"Home energy efficiency upgrades are a fantastic way to make your home more comfortable, while also saving money by lowering your monthly energy bills," said Governor Martin O'Malley. "I hope that everyone who has been considering making an investment in their homes will take advantage of this opportunity, which will help bring us closer to our goal of reducing Maryland's energy consumption by 15% by 2015."

The Home Performance Rebate program can be used to hire a home performance contractor to complete a number of qualifying home energy efficiency upgrades, including: whole-house air sealing, attic insulation, duct sealing or replacement, wall insulation, and crawl space or basement insulation. Each of these upgrades will help to keep homes more comfortable in extreme weather, and save homeowners money by lowering their energy bills throughout the life of the investment.

For individuals who, in addition to the up to 50% rebate, may need assistance in financing a home energy efficiency investment, the Maryland Energy Administration and Maryland Clean Energy Center are offering unsecured home energy improvement loans for up to \$20,000 at 6.99%.

"There has never been a better time to make an energy efficiency upgrade for your home," said Malcolm Woolf, Director of the Maryland Energy Administration. "By taking advantage of these rebates, Marylanders can make their homes more comfortable, save money, and help keep our state *Smart, Green, and Growing*."

To apply for a rebate, residents should visit MDHomePerformance.org to identify the best ways to save money and energy. Rebates can be reserved at Energy.Maryland.gov. Residents are encouraged to act quickly, as funds are limited.

For more information, [visit the Maryland Energy Administration](http://www.energy.maryland.gov).

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